

**LAKSHA DE ALWIS FCA, ACMA, CGMA, CPA PNG**  
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**DOB** : 3<sup>rd</sup> April 1981



## **PROFILE**

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A Chartered Accountant from Sri Lanka, with extensive experience over twenty plus (20+) years which include over twelve plus (12+) years post qualifying experience in Hospitality, Trading, Finance, Printing, Shipping, Apparel, INGO and Service industries. Served in various objectives for both local and foreign stakeholders. Ability to manage multiple assignments while meeting tight deadlines, Attention to details with highest efficiency, achieving highest standards in all endeavours undertaken through teamwork while building relationship in a multi-cultural environment.

## **CAREER SUMMARY**

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- Senior Manager - financial services – DP Associates Chartered Accountants Sri Lanka - October 2020 to date
- Deputy Chief Financial Officer – Universal Enterprises Pvt Ltd, Maldives – June 2014 to September 2020
- Group Financial Controller – Remington Group, Papua New Guinea - July 2011 to December 2013
- Group Accountant – GAC Group of Companies – November 2009 to March 2011
- Group Accountant – Union Apparels Pvt Ltd – November 2008 to October 2009
- Officer Project Accounting – International Water Management Institute - January 2007 to November 2008
- Credit Controller - Aramex Lanka Pvt Ltd — June 2006 to December 2006
- Audit Trainee - The Capital Maharaja Organization Ltd – July 2004 to June 2006
- Accounts Clerk – Bartleet Financial Services Pvt Ltd – February 2002 July 2004

## **EDUCATIONAL BACKGROUND**

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- Masters of Business Administration (MBA) specialized in Finance, from University of Southern Queensland Australia - 2021
- Fellow Member of the Institute of Chartered Accountants of Sri Lanka (FCA) – 12 years post qualifying experience
- Associate Member of the Chartered Institute of Management Accountants of United Kingdom (ACMA) – 11 years post qualifying experience
- Associate Member of the Certified Public Accountants Papua New Guinea CPA PNG – 2011
- School attended – St Joseph’s College Colombo 10, Completed Advance level in year 2000

## **WORK EXPERIENCE**

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### **Universal Enterprises Pvt Ltd, Maldives**

Universal group is one of the largest hotel chains in Maldives operating with Nine five-star properties with over 1,100 rooms. It has won several hospitality awards for its class and performance. It has other SBU's related to hospitality industry as well. I was overlooking the finance function of the Holding company and reporting to the Managing Director & Board of Directors. I had 16 staff members working under me at Male' Maldives office and closely working with the Resort Financial controllers as well with in all the group properties.

#### ***Deputy Chief Financial Officer (June 2014 to September 2020)***

- Monitoring the Budgeting and forecasting for all the properties – Occupancy, revenue, expenditure (Capex/ Opex), P&L and Cash flow.
- Participating for reviews of Joint venture companies (Two resorts in Maldives managed by Marriot International (Sheraton Maldives and WMaldives) and Silhouette Island Resort in Seychelles which is managed by Hilton International) and representing owners' interest.
- Managing the finance function of the group & overlooking the treasury operation.
- Monitoring the annual audit and finalizing the statutory financials of the group.
- Participating in the biannual board meetings, along with suggestions and explanations.
- Monitoring the monthly accounts preparation and Management Information to the top management.
- Monitoring the performance indicators regularly.
- Ensure proper Internal controls are implemented within the Group
- Involving in the preparation of contracts with various stakeholders such as Air lines, Tour operators, Service providers, etc. & monitor and implement proper controls in the finance department to ensure the contractual terms are followed.
- Liaise with the Insurance company / companies and ensure all the necessary covers are obtained sufficiently for all the properties.
- Dealing with the Maldives Inland Revenue Authority on all Tax related matters and ensure Tax Compliance within all the Group companies
- Negotiating with the banks over funding requirements & restructuring of banking facilities as appropriate.
- Was appointed as a Director for Global Hotel Supplies Limited (Dubai based company)

### **Remington Group Papua New Guinea**

Remington Group is one of the oldest diversified Groups in Papua New Guinea, which has the authorized dealership for sale & repair for range of Branded office equipment's. It has expanded its portfolio into Printing, Hotels & Finance with branch officers in seven major cities in Papua New Guinea

#### ***Group Financial Controller (July 2011 to December 2013)***

- Monitoring the preparation of the financial statements and Preparation of branch wise profitability statements

- Budgeting and forecasting – Sales, Imports, Profitability and Cash flows
- Evaluation of the credit worthiness of the customers
- Continuous monitoring of debts and setting weekly collection targets
- Proposing areas for reporting / Internal control improvements at branches during managers meetings
- Liaising with the auditors in finalizing the audited accounts.
- Involved in competitive pricing, working out the landed cost & working closely with the logistics staff to cut down on the import related costs.
- Coordinating with the banks
- Coordinating with Inland Revenue corporation whenever required
- In addition to my finance related duties, I act as the system administrator of **ATTACHE' ERP** and follow up with the software provider on customized solutions to improve the reporting

### **GAC Group of Companies**

Gulf Agency Company is based in Dubai, which has diversified into shipping related operations.

#### ***Group Accountant (November 2009 to March 2011)***

- Analyzing the financials of GAC Group of companies
- Presenting the monthly accounts to the Board at the monthly Business Group meeting,
- Budgeting and forecasting trends.
- Act as the process owner for cash & bank related KPI's & KPO. Analyzing the KPI deviations and proposing strategies based on the result.
- Involved in the consolidation of financial statements of the group.
- Authorizing the Shipping line wise Disbursement account
- Liaising with Banks, customers & suppliers, Coordination with Inland Revenue, other regulatory bodies & Auditors,
- Review the Accounting & Internal controls periodically & take measures to improve.

### **Union Apparels Pvt Ltd**

Union Apparels is one of the oldest companies well established in the Apparel sector with over 7,000 machines & diversified in related businesses. The company divested into hotel industry as well.

#### ***Group Accountant (November 2008 to October 2009)***

- Preparation & Analysis of Final Accounts for individual Factories & Group
- Preparation of Management Reports on Production Basis & C&M Basis,
- Coordinate with Inland Revenue, Textile Quota Board (TQB), Board of Investment (BOI) & Auditors
- Liaison with customers, suppliers and financial institutions,

- Assist in the preparation of Group Budget,
- Involve in Preparation of Group Payroll,
- Act as the Administrator for the ERP system (TOPS).

#### **International Water Management Institute (IWMI)**

IWMI is a an International Not for profit organization whose Head office is based in Sri Lanka, which conducts research on improving livelihoods & natural resources on many regions & continents

#### ***Officer project Accounting (January 2007 to November 2008)***

- Worked in SAP environment with expertise in General Ledger, Cash Book, Bank & other reconciliations and Accounts Payable
- Carryout systems studies
- Train end users at regional officers.
- Preparation of monthly management reports,
- Responsible for Month End Accounting for Asia Region

#### **The Capital Maharaja Organization Ltd**

The Capital Maharaja Organization is one of the top diversified Groups in Sri Lanka.

#### ***Audit Trainee (July 2004 to June 2006)***

- As an audit trainee, I underwent training in Internal auditing, financial reviews, system analysis, gap analysis, system evaluation and implementation along with my superiors. I completed the two-year final mandatory professional training requirement of Institute of Chartered Accountants during this period.

#### **Bartleet Financial Services Pvt Ltd**

Bartleet Finance is a subsidiary to the Bartleet Group & its core business is Financial services.

#### ***Accounts clerk (February 2002 to July 2004)***

- As an accounts clerk, I developed my hands-on experience covering most of the core work pertaining finance related work. I completed the first two years professional training requirement of Institute of Chartered Accountants during this period

## NON-RELATED REFEREES

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- Mr. Ken Harvey  
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- Mr. Adam Dwyer  
Managing Director  
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